

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A force feedback apparatus comprising:

~~a jetting means unit that includes a nozzle nozzles and that can is configured to control a jet amount or a jet direction of gas or liquid jetted from the nozzle nozzles; and~~

~~a jet control means for controlling unit configured to control the jet amount or the jet direction of the gas or the liquid according to a position or an orientation of a receiver that receives is configured to receive a pressure by the gas or the liquid jetted from the jetting means unit so as to provide force feedback to an operator, wherein the position or the orientation of the receiver is measured by a receiver measurement means; unit,~~

~~wherein, the nozzles are arranged in an equilateral triangular shape in the jetting unit, and when the receiver has a concave shape of a diameter D, intervals for placing each of the nozzles in the jetting means unit are set such that at least one nozzle exists within a region having a diameter of a constant \times D, in which the constant is a positive value equal to or less than 1.~~

2. (Original) The force feedback apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the receiver has a hemispheric shape and the constant is 0.8.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The force feedback apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nozzle jetting unit includes a nozzle open/close means unit for opening or closing a nozzle of the nozzles in response to an occurrence of a jet of the gas or the liquid, and wherein a point

of support for opening and closing of the nozzle with the open/close means unit is provided on [[the]] an operator side of the operator nozzle.

5. (Currently Amended) The force feedback apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 3, further comprising a virtual object calculation means for calculating unit configured to calculate a state of a virtual object in a virtual environment, to be displayed by a virtual environment display means unit, according to the position or the orientation of the receiver.

6. (Currently Amended) The force feedback apparatus as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a sound generation control means for controlling unit configured to control an attribute of a sound, ~~to be~~ generated by a sound generation means, unit according to the state of the virtual object, or the position or the orientation of the receiver.

7. (Currently Amended) The force feedback apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the sound generation control ~~means controls~~ unit is configured to control the attribute of the sound, ~~to be~~ generated by the sound generation means, unit according to the state of the virtual object, or the position or the orientation of the receiver, and according to identification of the receiver or a shape or a color of the receiver measured by the receiver measurement means unit.

8. (Currently Amended) A force feedback method, comprising:
~~a step of controlling a jet amount or a jet direction of gas or liquid from nozzles included in a jetting unit according to a position or an orientation of a receiver that receives is configured to receive a pressure [[by]] from the gas or the liquid jetted from a nozzle the~~

nozzles so as to provide force feedback to an operator, the nozzles being arranged in an equilateral triangular shape in the jetting unit,

wherein, when the receiver has a concave shape of a diameter D, intervals for placing the nozzles in the jetting means unit are set such that at least one nozzle exists within a region having a diameter of a constant \times D, in which the constant is a positive value equal to or less than 1.

9. (Original) The force feedback method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the receiver has a hemispheric shape and the constant is 0.8.

10. (Currently Amended) The force feedback method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

~~a virtual object calculation step~~ of calculating a state of a virtual object in a virtual environment, to be displayed by a virtual environment display means unit, according to the position or the orientation of the receiver.

11. (Currently Amended) The force feedback method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

~~a sound generation control step~~ of controlling an attribute of a sound, ~~to be~~ generated by a sound generation means, unit according to the state of the virtual object [[,]] or the position or the orientation of the receiver.

12. (Currently Amended) The force feedback method as claimed in claim 11, the ~~sound generation control step~~ controlling an attribute of a sound including a ~~step~~ of controlling [[the]] an attribute of [[the]] a sound, ~~to be~~ generated by the sound generation means, unit according

to the state of the virtual object [[,]] or the position or the orientation of the receiver, and according to identification of the receiver or a shape or a color of the receiver.

13-14. (Canceled)